IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Cindy CASTADO Docket No: BM45292 (306548)

Serial No.: 10/500,530 Confirmation No.: 7712

Filed: February 16, 2005 Group Art Unit: 1645

For: NOVEL COMPOUNDS Examiner: BASKAR, Padmavathi

STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW UNDER 37 CFR § 1.133

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Further to the Examiner's Interview Summary attached to the Notice of Allowability mailed January 31, 2007, applicants hereby timely submit a Statement of the Substance of the Interview.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS

Statement of the Substance of the Interview

Further to the Examiner's Interview Summary attached to the Notice of Allowability mailed January 31, 2007, applicants confirm that the interview conducted on December 20, 2006 was telephonic, that no exhibits were shown, and that agreement was reached regarding amendment of claim 60 as per the Interview Summary.

Clarification of Restriction Requirement

The restriction requirement mailed October 19, 2005 set forth restriction Groups I – VI. In Applicants' response dated February 21, 2006, Applicants elected Group I, drawn to

an isolated polynucleotide and derivatives thereof, a method for expressing a polynucleotide, a genetically modified host cell, a method for expressing a polypeptide and an immunogenic composition.

Notwithstanding applicant's election, in the Office Action mailed April 6, 2006 the Examiner withdrew all claims except those drawn to polypeptides and fusion proteins, now allowed.

Applicants understand the allowance of claims drawn to polypeptides and fusion proteins, coupled with the Examiner's failure to rejoin any of the claims earlier withdrawn, as an affirmation that the polypeptides and fusion proteins allowed in the instant application are independent and distinct from "an isolated polynucleotide and derivatives thereof, a method for expressing a polypucleotide, a genetically modified host cell, a method for expressing a polypeptide and an immunogenic composition," 35 U.S.C. § 121.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with this Statement. However, the Director is authorized to charge any additional fees that may required, or credit any overpayment, to Dechert LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2778 (**Order No. BM45292 (306548)**).

Date: February 14, 2007

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